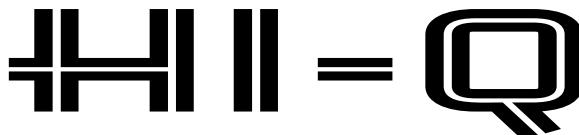




Journal of the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club



Thunder Bay, Ontario



Volume 80

December 2014

Issue 10



LARC Volunteers at the Christmas Parade, L to R, Pat Uugh VA3PP, Chris Chadwick VA3TBA, William Peter Unger VE3XT, Robert Hanson VE3RVA, Nawrocki, Marion VE3MJN, Missing is Mark Vailant, VA3MVR



Conditions Look Good for ARRL 10 Meter Contest December 13-14

From the ARRL

Always a favorite among serious and casual contesters alike, the 2014 ARRL 10 Meter Contest may enjoy excellent worldwide openings, plus a record number of participants! Activity in the CQ World Wide CW contest in late November was through the roof, with some operators reporting better 10 meter conditions than they could ever remember.

"Don't miss out on this opportunity to work the world, before the Sun works its way back into a slumber," said ARRL Contest Branch Manager Matt Wilhelm, W1MSW.

There are a few new twists for this year's running. Single-Operator stations using assistance no longer will be categorized as Multioperator entries. Also, nine new Unlimited categories have been added: Single Operator QRP, Low and High Power CW Only, Phone Only or Mixed Mode.

Want to share the fun? Invite your friends over and enter in the Multioperator category. Even though this is a 48-hour contest, all stations — Single or Multioperator — may only operate for 36 hours total. This means that operators will have to plan the best strategy to be on the air at the right times to take advantage of the propagation.

The 10 meter band features Technician class phone privileges from 28.300 to 28.500 MHz, so operators that are new to contesting and, perhaps, new to HF operating, will be able to take part in the contest and even be competitive. This is a tremendous opportunity for veteran operators to serve as Elmers to the new contesters.

All stations will send a signal report as part of the contest exchange. Stations in the US (including Alaska and Hawaii), Canada, and Mexico will send their state or province abbreviations as part of the exchange; stations in the District of Columbia stations will send "DC." DX stations (including KH2, KP4, etc) will also send a sequential serial number starting with 001. Maritime mobile stations must send their ITU Region (R1, R2, or R3).

The 2014 ARRL 10 Meter Contest gets underway at 0000 UTC on Saturday, December 13 (Friday, December 12, in US time zones). It concludes at 2359 UTC on Sunday, December 14. Logs should be e-mailed or postmarked by 0000 UTC Wednesday, January 14, 2014. Mail paper logs to ARRL 10 Meter Contest, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. Soapbox stories and photos can be uploaded on the Soapbox page.

LARC SENATE

Robert Hansen VE3RVA
Dave Kimpton VE3AVS
Laurie Bridgett VE3BCD
Terry Stewardson VA3LU
Ed Baumann VE3SNW

LARC EXECUTIVE

President
Randy Gottfred VA3OJ

Vice President
Robert Hanson VE3RVA

Treasurer
BillUnger VE3XT

Secretary
Karl Hamilton VE3RRP

Board Members
Mike Skillen VE3EDX
Andy Malcom VE3INI
Lori Bedford VE3VAI
Ed Baumann VE3SNW

ABOUT US

The Lakehead Amateur Radio Club (LARC) is an incorporated not for profit group of amateur radio operators in the Thunder Bay area that meet for self education, community service and fellowship. Our meetings are the second Thursday of the month at room 191 McIntyre Building, Confederation College, 7:30 PM. Our postal address is 1100C Memorial Ave. Suite 184, Thunder Bay, Ontario P7B 4A3. This newsletter is published monthly except for July and August by Ed Baumann VE3SNW and questions and submissions may be emailed to hiqnewsletter.com

Nets in the Thunder Bay Area

Sunday AMETHYST ARES VHF NET, on VE3TBR 146.820- pl 107.2 IRLP Ref. # 9031 @ 0045Z (7:45 pm), also Cook County ARES Response Team (CARRT) net at 0100Z (8 pm) on the BWARC repeater, Grand Portage repeater - 146.655 with CTCSS 151.4

Monday SATERN NET on VE3TBR 146.820- pl 107.2 IRLP Ref. # 9032

SATERN DIGITAL NETS on **Monday & Wednesday** nights

8 pm- 14.065

9 pm- 7.065

10 pm- 3.5835

Mode :Olivia 8/500 1000Hz waterfall centre

Every Day The NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO ARES NET , every evening at 8:15PM (local) on 80m 3.750Mhz (note the time does not change with daylight savings time.)

Any questions on these or other nets please feel free to contact me at my e-mail: ve3mxj@rac.ca

LARC Emergency Coordinator

Brad Harris VE3MXJ 767-0628

ARES District Emergency Coordinator

VE3FAL Fred Lesnick 577-0789

CANWARN

VA3JMS John 767-3631
VE3MXJ Brad 767-0628

Public Service Events

VA3JMS John 767-3631

Accredited Examiners

VE3FAL Fred Lesnick 577-0789
flesnick@tbaytel.net
VE3VAI Lori Bedford 622 – 6386
ve3vai@tbaytel.net

LARC OPEN ACCESS REPEATERS

VE3YQT(Mount Baldy)147.060 (-600) Phone Patch

VE3TBR (St. Joseph's) 146.820 pl 107.2

442.075 (+5 MHz)pl 100

144.390 APRS

VE3UPP Upsala 145.470 (-600)

NASA RELEASES VIDEO OF SOLAR FLARES
FIRING
FROM MONSTER SUNSPOT

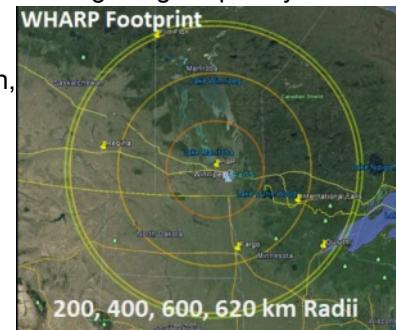
NASA has released a video showing eight days of solar flares produced by the largest sunspot in the past two dozen years. Known as AR 2192, the video is a time lapse that shows its X-class flares in both visible and ultraviolet light using images taken by the Solar Dynamics Observatory Atmospheric Imaging Assembly Instrument. The massive sunspot, which has now rotated away from Earth, produced the most powerful X-class flares between October 19th and the 27th, plus many more medium-class flares during that same period. The video is on-line several places including YouTube at tinyurl.com/sunspot-AR2192.

Another version with graphics and a musical background is at tinyurl.com/sunspot-ar2192-video (spacereporter.com)

This article in the Newscaster from the Winnipeg ARC caught my eye

Winnipeg High Altitude Repeater Project

SHARP made a proposal to WARC to fly an amateur radio repeater on a high altitude balloon with a launch in April or early May. SHARP currently has one 3000 gram balloon and two 1500 gram balloons. The 1500 gram balloon will easily lift a 1 kilogram payload. WARC's help will be invaluable in getting frequency approval and in promoting the event to radio amateurs in Saskatchewan, North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota and Ontario. The largest circle on the map shows the radio footprint of the balloon borne repeater at its maximum altitude of about 105,000 feet for the 1500 gram balloon.



Depending on altitude it may be possible for us in Thunder Bay to hear it. Hopefully we will hear more about the project in the coming months.

Are you a
RAC member??
<http://www.rac.ca>



RAC/ARES
NATIONAL EMC COMM FREQUENCIES

SSB	Frequency	Tactical
75M - LSB	3.675 MHz	Alfa
40 M - LSB	7.135 MHz	Bravo
20 M - USB	14.135 MHz	Charlie
17 M - USB	18.135 MHz	Delta
15 M - USB	21.235 MHz	Echo
10 M - USB	28.235 MHz	Foxtrot

CW	Frequency	Tactical
80 M	3.535 MHz	Golf
40 M	7.035 MHz	Hotel
20 M	14.035 MHz	India
17 M	18.075 MHz	Juliette
15 M	21.035 MHz	Kilo
10 M	28.035 MHz	Lima

Digital	Frequency	Tactical
80M	3.596 MHz	Mike
40 M	7.096 MHz	November
40 M	7.096 MHz	November
20 M	14.096 MHz	Oscar
17 M	18.096 MHz	Papa
15 M	21.096 MHz	Quebec
10 M	28.096 MHz	Romeo

Minutes for the**Lakehead Amateur Radio Club****Date: November 13, 2014**

President, Randy Gottfred VA3OJ Presiding.

Guest Speaker:

Bill Unger VE3XT talked about operating at W1AW.

Treasurer's Report: Bill Unger VE3XT

Bill Unger VE3XT moved to accept the report as printed in Hi-Q. Seconded by Bob Hanson VE3RVA. Passed.

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Karl Hamilton VE3RRP moved to accept the previous meeting's minutes as emailed. Seconded by George Dow VE3DOW. Passed.

Old Business:

Public Service (John Sacek VA3JMS public events coordinator)

Past Events:

none to report

Upcoming Events:

Santa Claus Parade, November 15, Norm Bell VE3XRC, Bob Hanson VE3RVA

Santa Shuffle, December, Saturday December 6
Bob Hanson VE3RVA

CANWARN John Sacek VA3JMS

no activity

ARES Brad Harris VE3MXJ Thunder Bay EC

Sunday night NW ON Amethyst VHF net on VE3TBR, IRLP Reflector 9031, 7:45 ET
Daily NW ON HF 3750 KHz, 8:15 ET if an operator is available

RAC Report Bill Unger VE3XT

Repeater News

Randy Gottfred VA3OJ,

Terry Stewardson VA3LU

10 metre repeater

YQT needs a new Heliax connector

Club Trailer:**Bob Hansen VE3RVA**

Winter storage, trailer advertisement. We will be sourcing a new business sponsor for 2015.

2 Day Weekend License Course

Email names and contact info of interested people to Karl ve3rrp@rac.ca

The executive will create a letter detailing the club's plan to offer a licensing course. Possible groups top notify are the Air, Army and Sea Cadets, 36 Communications Squadron.

New Business**Field Day Location:**

brainstorming how to put ham radio in the public eye... anyone interested in organizing?

Website Renewal \$323.64 (3 yr)

Leo VE3ATC has agreed to revive and maintain as well as host the LARC website for current cost of \$114.04.

2015 April Dinner MeetingThe dinner meeting will be on Thursday April 9th at 6 PM in the private room at Chicago Joe's. Bob Hanson VE3RVA will reserve.

Club Insurance

Club Treasurer Bill Unger VE3XT reported receiving an invoice from the insurance company for the annual policy renewal of \$549.72. Norm Bell VE3XRC moved to pay the invoice. Karl Hamilton VE3RRP seconded. Motion passed to pay club insurance.

50/50 Draw: Mike Skillen VE3EDX

Adjournment moved by: Randy Gottfred VA3OJ

Next Executive Meeting: December 4, 2014, 7:30 PM

Next LARC Meeting: December 11, 2014, 7:30 PM

A Glowbug's Christmas

Courtesy of AA1IP

T'was the night before Christmas
And all through the shack
Not a heater was glowing
In all of the rack.

Sitting totally silent and quiet that night
The old HRO shed nary a light.
The Johnson exciter and its homebrew final
Felt cold as leftovers, or seat-cover vinyl,

I drowsed at my workbench feeling tired and weary,
The print in the Handbook looked fuzzy and smeary.
I thought, "I'll make coffee", and groaned to my feet
When I heard a loud clatter outside in the street.

What the--? I wondered and turned on the lights
And there I beheld a wondrous sight:
A battered old van heaped high with components
And a grizzled old ham with a bagful of doughnuts.

I noted a callsign-- can't recall it today--
But a patch on the side read "FMLA".
I opened the door and hollered "Come in!"

The coffee pot's heating, and we'll sit down and chin!"

He spoke not a word but whistled in Morse

A "GE OM", and "By golly, I'm hoarse."

Too many contests and contacts and hot rosin smoke."

I nodded and poured him a mug of jamoke.

He emptied the doughnuts in a pile on a plate
And explained in a whistle, "I'm running real late.
I've new 6L6s and fine 211s, 6146s and good 'SN7s.
And 866s and 0B2s, type 45s and mil-spec 807s."

"For the regennie crowd, 201s by the score

And good ol' type 30s and 19s galore.

I haven't neglected the passive-parts run

There's lots of good iron by old Thordarson."

I nodded and smiled, suppressing a chortle
As he reached in his pack and left me a 304TL.
He whistled, "I'm leaving, the coffee was great,
But I'm overdue in the neighbouring state."

"Keep everyone building the rigs of their choosing
Or we'll lose the bands that we're lazy in using.

Transistors or tubes-- any project is fine--
Just keep on constructing and sharing on line."

He leaped to his feet and waved a gloved hand
As he sprang for the door of his rusty old van.
I heard him exclaim as he drove away from me,
"Merry Christmas, you Glowbugs, and to all 73!"



Lakehead Amateur Radio Club

November 2014 Treasurers Report

Balance November 1 2014	<u>\$2,001.80</u>
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Income

November 14 Dues	\$35.00
November 50/50	\$5.00
Total Income	<u>\$35.00</u>

Expenses

November 14, B Hansen Trailer Lights	\$12.00
November 14, Upper Canada Insurance	\$549.72
November 27, L Wehrstedt, LARC Domain, Metro Hostin	\$114.04
Total Expenses	<u>\$675.76</u>

Balance November 30, 2014	<u>\$1,361.04</u>
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Trailer Account

	Previous Balance	\$785.53
<u>Income</u>		
November 30 Interest		\$0.07
Total		<u>\$785.60</u>
<u>Expenses</u>		
Total Expenses:		\$0.00
	Balance in Trailer Account	<u>\$785.60</u>

Term Account

Balance November 01 2014	\$2,039.16
November 30 2014	\$0.67
November 30 2014	\$2,039.83

Bill Unger VE3XT

Treasurer



North East Ontario Regional Directors Report for the Last Time

Well after 7 years my term as Director is over. It's been a great journey and I was able to meet incredible Amateurs from my region and across the country. There are many things I want to say but others have said what I am thinking and said it far more eloquently. The following is from Teddy Roosevelt:



"It's not the critic who counts. It's not the man who points out how the strong man stumbled. Credit belongs to the man who really was in the arena, his face marred by dust, sweat, and blood, who strives valiantly ... And, who at worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and cruel souls who know neither victory nor defeat."

Make no mistake, RAC has not failed and will not fail. And in case you're worried there is no dust, sweat or blood on me ☺ I do want to give thanks to all of you who are in the arena, who continue with your support to ensure the successes of RAC in so many ways. And these people are not only in North East Ontario but right across Canada. I can't list you all but your, ideas and especially time to better the hobby for all Canadian Amateurs are appreciated. You've made RAC a voice for all Canadian Hams. Thank You.

In my 7 years as a Director I've never commented on those folks who troll and make disparaging comments on how RAC is _____, (fill in your favourite downer word). There is only one to say to them, Pffft. That's not what I'm thinking but I'm still trying to keep this a family read. My regard for them is pretty much the same as Roosevelt.

RAC is now on a solid fiscal footing, membership is steady, we were contracted to improve the Industry Canada question bank, RAC offer's insurance to clubs, again this year we are awarding three scholarships to Amateurs studying in STEM programs at the post secondary level, the Youth Education Program is starting to ramp up, there is the Canada Day and Winter Contest, we have obtained several new bands over the past few years and have taken leadership roles in distracted driving and tower legislation across the country. And I believe it's going to continue to get better with your help.

If you want to give back to Amateur Radio because it is important to you I would ask that you consider getting involved in Radio Amateurs of Canada. Thank You.

And finally I need to say one last HUGE Thank You to my YL Rita. There is an old saw that goes "*Behind every successful man there is a surprised wife*". A great measure of any effectiveness on my part is due to her. Over the years she has listened to my rants, hosted Amateurs from across the country at our home, educated me in the proper usage of the English language for these reports and especially provided good council. Thank you.

Don't forget the RAC winter Contest December 27 and listen for VE3XT/VE6.

73 just ... Bill VE3XT





December 2014

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 LARC Club Meeting at Confederation College	12	13 ARRL 10 me- ter contest	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 Christmas Day 	26 Boxing Day	27 RAC Winter Contest	28
29	30	31 New Years Eve! Please Party Safe!				